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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, rm 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket No. 00D-1598

Dear FDA,

A SPADE IS A SPADE:

I am deeply angered that the FDA continues to ignore the will of the public and refuses to make labeling of genetically engineered foods mandatory. Why are you not accountable to the U. S. people? Your sharing the sheets with the ag industry is one example of why many citizens are demanding campaign finance reform! Government agencies with *corporate interests as first priority* equates to 'wholesale criminal negligence in safety for people! Your 'catering and traitoring' has to stop!

WHY DO WE TAIL others in 'common sense'? Europe, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, are among a number of countries that will refuse to buy our foods because of GMOs - food alterations. **They have** mandatory labeling. Since they object to our poor integrity in food supply, please see the *Bottom line*: **they will not buy** our food. (AND WE HOLLER ABOUT A TRADE DEFICIT?! Your lack of embarrassment reminds me of Clinton. At least HE owned up to his foul play, (finally). (Yes, I know, and now can YOU own up to being caught?)

SPECIFICALLY: You have assessed by now that I am writing about your "Draft Guidance for Industry: Voluntary Labeling Indicating Whether Foods Have or Have Not Been Developed Using Bioengineering." (This needs to include reference to crops adjacent to those engineered crops with polluting pollen).

Your agency **admits** to receiving more than 50,000 comments last year regarding genetically engineered foods. You concede: "Most of the comments that addressed labeling requested mandatory disclosure of the fact that the food or its ingredients was bioengineered or was produced from bioengineered food." **Yet you ignore** the will of the public saying the comments "did not provide data or other information regarding consequences to consumers from eating the food." The truth is there has been **ample evidence submitted** to the FDA revealing that these foods are NOT "substantially equivalent" to non-genetically engineered foods. Yet your agency continues to ignore this evidence.

FOR YOUR REVIEW: Studies have shown that biotech soybeans contain altered levels of nutrients such as isoflavones. They have been shown to have higher levels of Kunitz trypsin inhibitor, **a known antinutrient and allergen**. Genetically engineered foods contain antibiotic marker genes and **many contain built-in pesticides**. These are not found in non-genetically engineered foods. (I do not want to eat these biotech foods, but without mandatory labeling I have no choice. Does the American people have to begin **shopping at Foreign stores** in our own country?)

Last year, **Monsanto** admitted to finding "unexpected gene fragments" in their genetically engineered soybeans. What other "unexpected gene fragments" are

00D-1598

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contained in other genetically engineered foods? The truth is that the **FDA does not know**, because these experimental foods have not been adequately tested. New proteins never before consumed by humans are **being created** and brought to market **without any extensive tests** being done to show that they are not causing **allergies, cancer or other diseases**. There are certain barriers that nature does not cross. Science understands the coming losses to the roulette game. **CAN'T YOU LISTEN?**

In the case of genetically engineered foods, the FDA has done a **poor job** of protecting the safety of consumers. **Please remember that the potential allergies created by the ingestion of StarLink corn completely escaped the FDA regulatory guidelines. It was the EPA that discovered the digestive problems associated with StarLink corn.**

HOW DARE YOU CENSOR! The FDA has been accused of being a **pawn of biotech industry**. It is documents such as your Draft Guidance for Industry that lead many to feel this belief holds some truth. (You know where I stand.) In your Draft Guidance you question whether **manufacturers who choose not to use genetically engineered ingredients should be able to label** their products as **GMO Free**.

It is bad enough that the FDA does not require the mandatory labeling of genetically engineered foods. Now your agency even seems to be exploring the idea of **restricting the ability of a manufacturer to let consumers know** their products are **not genetically engineered**. Such regulatory restrictions would be an **outrageous act of censorship** by the FDA.

PAY ATTENTION TO GOOD SENSE: Genetically engineered foods are required to be labeled in the European Union nations, in Japan, Australia, New Zealand and other countries. Recently, **both the E.U.-U.S. Biotechnology Consultative Forum and the Consumer Federation of America recommended** mandatory labeling of genetically engineered foods. The FDA should stop working on behalf of the manufacturers of genetically engineered foods and begin to work for the safety and rights of the American public. I insist that genetically engineered foods be labeled!

Watch out! The masses are growing!! And **your current behavior is the fuel**. The future is yours **now to correctly lead**. If you lead wrong it will be irreversible.

Sincerely,



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